

Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 EUR-12

/115 W

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P R 011525Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8626

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 0492

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR BB SC

SUBJ: SUGAR: PUERTA PLATA MEETING AND EXPORT PLANS

REF: A) BRIDGETOWN 0175 B) STATE 061168

1. ECONOFF CONVEYED SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 3-7 REFTTEL (B) TO PRINCIPAL GOB AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS. NEITHER OF THESE PARTIES HAS MUCH INFORMATION ON PUERTA PLATA MEETING. BOTH ARE AWARE OF MEETING AND GOB STATES THAT IT WILL LIKELY SEND REPRESENTATIVE. NEITHER REGARDS POSSIBILITY OF CARTEL FORMATION AMONG HEMISPHERIC SUGAR PRODUCERS AS REALISTIC POLICY. BARBADOS, AS SMALL AND RELATIVELY INEFFICIENT PRODUCER, IS INTERESTED CHIEFLY IN MAINTAINING ITS TRADITIONAL MARKETS IN UK/EEC AND NORTH AMERICA OVER LONG TERM RATHER THAN REAPING WINDFALL PROFITS FROM TEMPORARILY HIGH PRICES. FOR THIS REASON, GOB PLANS TO SHIP ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF ITS 1975 EXPORT CROP TO TRADITIONAL MARKETS FOREGOING HIGHER PRICES WHICH, UNTIL RECENTLY, HAD BEEN OBTAINABLE ELSEWHERE. GOB IS PARTICULARLY EAGER TO MAINTAIN AS GOOD A
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SUPPLY RECORD AS POSSIBLE IN US MARKET AND, TO THIS END, RECENTLY

INCREASED SLIGHTLY INTENDED 1975 CROP EXPORTS TO US.

2. ADJUSTED ESTIMATES OF DISPOSITION OF BARBADOS 1975 CROP
OF 90,000 LT FOLLOWS:

UK	30,000 LT
US	25,000
WORLD MKT	10,000
FANCY MOLASES (US/CAN	10,000
DOMESTIC USE	14,000
CARICOM	1,000

GOB HAS UNDERTAKEN FUTURE COMMITMENT TO SUPPLY 50,000 LT ANNUALLY
TO UK/EEC AFTER JULY 1, 1975.

3. ST KITTS, WHICH IS IN SIMILAR POSITION TO BARBADOS, ESTIMATES
1975 CROP AT 25,000 LT. GOSK HAS NOT DISCLOSED EXPORT INTENTIONS
BUT INDUSTRY SOURCES FEEL THAT CROP MAY BE EVENLY SPLIT BETWEEN
UK/EEC AND US WITH PERHAPS REMAINDER SOLD ON WORLD MARKET.

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